

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 31435 222116Z

70

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /056 W
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R 222113Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6421

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS PARIS 31435

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, FR

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: AUTOMATIC FARE COLLECTION
SYSTEMS FOR MASS TRANSIT

1. FOLLOWING IS BACKGROUND INFO ON CGA, FRENCH FIRM
IDENTIFIED AS MAJOR COMPETITOR ON SUBJECT PROJECT.

2. CGA, COMPAGNIE GENERAL D'AUTOMATISME, 12, RUE DE
LA BAUME, 75008 PARIS WAS FOUNDED IN 1961, EMPLOYS 598,
IS PRESENTLY CAPITALIZED AT 10,500,000 FRANCS, AND
REALIZED A SALES VOLUME OF 130,880,222 FRANCS IN 1974.
IT MANUFACTURES ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR RAILWAYS,
CARS, AND HIGHWAYS. CGA IS A SUBSIDIARY (96.7 PERCENT)
OF COMPAGNIE GENERALE D'ELECTRONIQUE WHICH IN
TURN IS A SUBSIDIARY OF COMPAGNIE GENERALE D'ELECTRICITE
(CGE), 54, RUE LA BOETIE, 75008 PARIS.

3. CGE IS LEADING FIRM IN FRENCH ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY
AND IS PRIVATELY OWNED WITH SHARES TRADED ON PARIS
STOCK EXCHANGE. CGE IS A HOLDING COMPANY FOR VERY LARGE
FIRMS SUCH AS ALSTHOM.

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4. SOFRETU IS A SUBSIDIARY OF RATP (REGIE AUTOROME DES TRANSPORTS PARISIENS). RATP, GOVERNMENT OWNED COMPANY, HAS MONOPOLY FOR PARIS TRANSPORTATION (SUBWAY AND BUSES). SOFRETU IS AN ENGINEERING FIRM IN CHARGE OF OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES OF RATP.

5. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE NO DIRECT, OFFICIAL RELATIONSHIP EXISTS BETWEEN CGA AND SOFRETU. THE 2 FIRMS, HOWEVER, CERTAINLY HAVE CLOSE WORKING TIES.

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